GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3678
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2002
DEVELOPMENT OF LCA
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the development of Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) is progressing as per the schedule;

(b) if not, the reasons for slow pace of development and the cost escalation as a result thereof;

(c) whether any firm revised schedule for induction of LCA has been drawn up;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the estimated manufacturing cost of LCA; and

(f) the time by which the LCA is likely to be inducted?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The indigenously developed Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) is in advanced stage of flight testing.41 flight tests have been successfully conducted on two technology demonstrators of LCA.

(c) & (d): Does not arise.

(e) The unit fly-away cost of LCA during manufacturing is estimated at Rs. 85.00 crore (at 2001 price level).

(f) The Initial Operational Clearance (IOC) of LCA is planned to be obtained by the year 2005-2006 for induction in Indian Air Force.